

# **Year 10 Geography glossary**

Physical Geography: Physical geography is geography studying rivers, volcanoes, and mountains. Also studying volcanic eruptions and other physical things that affect our world. Basically physical geography is studying the actual land and landforms and weather etc.

Human Geography: Human geography is studying the people around us and where we live, how much money we have and the human race in general.

Environmental Geography: Environmental geography is studying the land and weather and pollution and the environment and how we as people affect it

Natural Hazard: Some natural thing that can cause death and destruction but when only a few people are there e.g. earthquake or volcanic eruption. A natural hazard usually interacts with human population or settlements and causes a lot of loss of life.

Natural disaster: When a natural hazard (earthquake, flood etc) causes a big amount of death and destruction and affects a lot of people. The numbers affected, the scale of the hazard, preparedness, frequency of hazard and the duration of the hazard affect the effects of the disaster.

Vulnerable: Something vulnerable (in terms of natural hazards) is something that can easily be affected by natural hazards.

Hydrological: This means 'to do with water' or 'water'. It is a technical term.

Geological: Something geological is something to do with the Earth and it's tectonic plates (technical term).

Climactic: Something climactic is something to do with the weather and climate (technical term).

Metrological: This is technical term for something to with the weather and the skies.

Natural Phenomenon/Event: This is when a natural hazard like an earthquake happens but no one is around to see or feel it.

Development: Development is the term to describe (in this case) how countries and certain areas are developing and how much money etc they have.

Vulnerability: The term to describe being open to natural hazards and disasters such as earthquakes, floods or volcanic eruptions.

Great Storm: A term to describe the two really big, severe storms in the UK in 1987 and 1707. They caused a lot of destruction.

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Asian Tsunami 2004: One of the worst natural disasters of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, was a huge wave that was caused by tectonic plate movement which caused an earthquake that caused a huge wave that hit south east Asia. Killed millions.

PEPSI: A shortened code to analyse a big building and infrastructure and other environments and things compared to the local environmental, social and physical surroundings. Stands for: physical, social, economic, political and infrastructure.

Infrastructure: The design and economic and physical structure of an area that keeps everything together and is the heart of a city or area.

Physical: The term (in Geography) to describe objects and things that are to do with the Earth's physical structure and base.

Social: The term (in geography) to describe things to do with people and their surrounding community.

Economic: The term (in geography) to describe things to do with government and money in the world.

Political: The term (in geography) to describe things to do with governments and countries.

Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDC)s: A less economically developed country is a country that is poor and the people are on average very very poor and are without jobs. Sometimes called third world countries e.g. Swaziland.

More Economically Developed Countries (MEDC)s: A more economically developed country is a country that is fairly rich and most people are on average living comfortably and most people have a job to support them. e.g. USA.

Climate change: The idea that the weather and the climate of the world is changing and is changing quickly which is leading to destructive results. Also called global warming.

Climate: Climate is the way specific areas are in terms of average weather and if it is hot cold, wet, cool or tropical etc.

Weather: The weather is used to describe if it is raining, snowing ,sunny etc.

Population: The word to describe how many people live in one specific area and the term to describe how many people are living altogether in one area. Usually put as a total number. Is the basis of many political and global issues.

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Population growth: The term to describe how a population of a specific area grows and changes over time due to natural and economic and physical reasons. The population growth of one area can be good or can lead to problems.

Migration: This is the movement from one place to another. It can happen with humans and animals and can be on any scale e.g. from one country to another or from one town to another. Person is called a migrant when they actually migrate. Migration can happen for any reason including money or work or government issues.

Seismograph: The device used to detect and measure earthquakes (on the Richter Scale) that works via a needle that makes curves bigger or smaller depending on the size of the earthquake. Looks like a lie detector machine.

Adapt: (In terms of natural disasters) This when you change your life and buy things etc. to prepare and protect yourself against natural disasters.

Accept: (In terms of natural disasters) This is when you agree and learn that you are not able to survive a natural disaster and accept it.

Dominate: (In terms of natural disasters) This is when you change your lifestyle and do so much that you can not be affected by a natural disaster and no danger comes from floods, earthquakes etc.

Place: This refers to the location and area where something like a crime happens.

Space: This refers to (in crime) how much space criminal had and where they committed a crime etc.

Human Processes: This refers to (in crime) what we do in crime and how we ruin the world round us including the environment etc.

Maps and GIS: This refers to (in crime) maps and GIS (Geographical Information System) and how they can help us locate crime and trouble. A GIS is a tracking or plotting device.

Real world Issues: This refers to what crime is actually happening and what the government is reporting in terms of what crimes. They don't seem to be reporting everything.

Enquiry: This refers to (in crime) a interview or question time about certain crimes and things on people involved in a crime. Also refers to how people's views are different on crimes e.g. whether they think crime is good or bad.

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Physical Disorder: This means when an area is destroyed or damaged or changed and gratified in some way. Can include graffiti, bad lighting, rubbish and other things.

Environment: (in terms of crime) the surroundings in which we live e.g. the urban environment.

Mental Map: (In terms of crime) A map which shows where criminal activity is likely to occur by combining the areas criminal knows well, with the opportunities for crime.

Target hardening: This is when you make the target (of crime) e.g. a house or car, harder to get at for the criminal. This includes making high fences or gates with locks and other things to prevent crime especially on a housing estate.

Making crime easier to notice: This means to make it easier to spot that a crime has taken place e.g. burglar alarms.

Designing out crime: This means to think about crime before building something new like a house and making it and designing it so that crime is harder to commit there e.g. building houses facing each other so that people can keep an eye on other people's property or only human entrance to an estate so that criminal have no escape route.

CCTV cameras: This stands for closed circuit television and is a type of very accurate camera that is used to catch crime and vandalism.

Trafficking: This is the illegal movement of things across country borders e.g. Drugs, people, animals, money, high value goods.

Biomes: These are different climate based zones around the world which contain the same type of animals, plants and weather.

Climate zones: These are different zones throughout the world which each have a certain type of climate, examples are tropical rainforest, arctic tundra and desert.

Tropical Rainforests (TRF): These are huge rainforests that have a hot, humid climate and contain lots of special trees, animals and insects.

Leaf Litter: A bunch of dead leaves spread out and lying on the floor.

Sections of the tropical rainforest: There are four different sections in the rainforest the floor that is exactly that the floor with small plants and leaves, the understory that is the area of small plants and leaves, the canopy which is the top of the trees and the emergent which is the top of the rainforest.

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Decomposition: The breaking down and splitting up of plants and trees and living things.

Equatorial: The term to describe the area that is around the equator all around the world.

Buttress roots: These are thick roots which support trees all over the world especially when they grow very tall.

Deforestation: This is the felling and clearance of forestland. Most deforestation in recent years has occurred in the Tropical Rainforest e.g. one fifth Amazon TRF 1960-90.

Road building: Cutting down trees and laying roads down instead and improving links.

Plantations: Cutting down trees and planting new crops like rubber and banana trees in their place.

Ranching: Cutting down trees for small settlements and ranches for food and grass (e.g. horses).

Shifting cultivation: Moving trees and plants and vegetation for resources and space.

Mining: Cutting trees and digging down into the ground for natural resources, removing minerals e.g. copper, gold and iron. Governments control these mines.

Logging: Cutting down large areas of forest for wood and timber for commercial use.

Trans-Amazonian highway: This is a long road that was built during the 1970-90s and links the whole of the Amazon rainforest and the surrounding area to one road. But it damages the environment.

Polamazonia plan: This was the plan that involved building the Trans-Amazonian highway and moving lots of people to the deforested Amazon rainforest to live. It failed and ruined the environment.

Hydro-electric dams and power: This is the process of building a dam and letting water run through it, turning a gear and producing clean, sustainable electricity. Several are being built in the Amazon rainforest including the one called the Tucurai dam.

Rubber tapping: The process by which rubber is gathered (as liquid form at first, then solidified)

Activist: A policy of taking direct action to achieve a goal.

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Preserve: To keep or maintain intact.

Sustainable: Capable of being continued with minimal long-term effect on the environment.

NGO: (non government organisation) A non-profit voluntary citizen's group.

Spiny trunks To prevent vines and lianas getting hold and weakening the trees.

Plants perched high up on branches: To absorb maximum sunlight.

Broad large leaves: To absorb maximum sunlight.

Waxy leaves: To filter excess water off leaf surfaces easily.

Drip tips on leaves: To filter excess water off leaf surfaces easily.

Dense vegetation: To give the tree good foundations.

Smooth trunk: To prevent vines/lianas weakening trees.

Very tall trunks: Out compete the trees for sunlight.

Thick vines called lianas climb up trees: To kill off competition nearby so securing more water for that individual/To enable the plant to reach sunlight. It would otherwise be unable to reach.

Sustainable Development: Development and energy and power that is carried out with resources and sources of energy that are clean, 'green' and can be used again and again and being able grow back or not run out. Sustainable refers to the fact of being supportive.

Sustainable plantations: These are plantations that can support sustainable development and are plantations that grow useful crops and medicine and are good for the environment.

Community Markets: These are markets that support sustainable development and are markets in small communities that sell natural materials and supplies and are good for the environment.

Eco-tourism: This is a place where tourists can concentrate on the plants and animals in an ecosystem.

Polar biome: Located at the extremes of the Earth (75-90 degrees latitude) in the Northern Arctic Ocean and Southern continent of Antarctica. Land of ice and snow.

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Tundra biome: Located between 60-75 degrees just North (in the northern hemisphere) and 5 off poles (in the southern hemisphere). Barren, cold landscape and little vegetation.

Katabatic: Strong winds, usually found in the Antarctic and Tundra.

Wind chill: The process in which your body gets cooled down rapidly thanks to the wind in polar and tundra biomes.

Fragile Environment: Is one which is limited in the types of plants and animals which live there due to restricting factor (e.g. the cold). The few plants and animals that exist are in balance with the climate. However the environment is not able to react to change easily, in fact change can often destroy some of the plants and animals when the balance is upset. Change could include an change in climate or a change due to human activity.

Restricting factor: The main control over a biome which limits the type of plants and animals that can live there and how much plants grow e.g. in the cold biomes it is cold. If temperatures become much COLDER (change) the biome's plants and animals need to react- sometimes they cannot react fast enough and die.

Changing equilibrium (balance): A state of balance that exists in most biomes- constant changes in temperature and water supply and human activity cause the biome's plants and animals constantly adjusting, trying to reach a state of balance with environment. Some biomes react very slowly to change.

Active layer: This refers to the time in the tundra biome in the summer when it is wet and marshy, the surface layer is called the active layer.

Permafrost: Permanently frozen ground or soil.

Food chain: A food chain shows the relationship between plants and animals within the (Antarctic) biome or any other area.

National park: This is a park or area of land which is protected by development from the government and the law (in any country) where no one can cut the grass or do anything to it in any way apart from visiting it. In the UK there are about 15 national parks e.g. Dartmoor and the Lake District and Exmoor.

Development: Means change for the better... In geographical terms development is about improving the lives of the people of a country.

Life expectancy: The average age a person born today could expect to reach before death.

Literacy: The % of the adult population that are able to read and write.



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GNP per capita: The wealth of a country divided by population number (e.g. wealth per person)

Death rate: The number of deaths per 1000 people

GNP: The wealth of a country- the total value of goods, products and services produced in a year.

LEDC/MEDC: A less/more economically developed country- a country with a low/high GNP.

Birth rate: The number of births per 1000 people.

Infant mortality: The number of children that die before their first birthday per 1000 live births.

Human Development Index: A social welfare index based upon life expectancy (health), adult literacy, number of years schooling (education) and real GNP per capita (economic)

Elitism: This is the belief or opinion that some people are less developed than others.

Indebtedness: This is when a specific country or organisation borrows money and is in debt but can not pay any of the money back.

Aid: This is giving resources and things like food and clothes and technology. This usually involves giving resources from one rich (donor) country to a smaller, poorer (recipient) country. This is done to improve development and life.

Multilateral aid: This is when several countries give aid to a certain organisation (e.g. the world bank) and they then give the aid around the world to people who need it.

Short term aid: This is aid which is used to stop a recent crisis quickly.

Long term aid: This is aid which is given to countries to help them work and survive over a long time.

Bilateral aid: This is when aid is given from just one country to another.

Voluntary aid: This is when smaller organisations which are not part of a government collect money and give it to people who need it, voluntarily.

Untied aid: This is when a recipient country does not have to do anything in return for its aid.



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Tied aid: This is when a recipient country has to give something back to its donor country in turn for its aid.

Cash crops: Crops grown for export and money generation not for food e.g. coffee, cocoa, tobacco.

Land distribution: Whether the land is owned by rural farmers, the government or provides landlords who collect rent.

Appropriate technology/intermediate aid/intermediate technology: The matching of technology or aid in LEDCs to the needs and skills of the people in the area. Too many development projects failed because the gaps between people's knowledge and modern technology were too great. With a lower level of technology it is possible for people to be able to be taught the technical understanding and skills that are required to become self sufficient.

Scale: Is the size of a study area (in terms of crime) it may vary from a local scale to a national, international or global scale. Also in terms of maps it refers to the way of drawing and measuring maps and drawing in the same proportion of size.

Compass: The symbol used to work out directions in terms of north, south, east and west. Also known as a compass rose (different from the geographical compass rose).

Sketch map: A sketch map is a careful and accurate drawing of a particular area from overhead. Is done in pencil and includes a key and is coloured in.

Field sketch: A field sketch is a sort of rough map to describe the landscape you're looking at now. Includes simple lines, shapes and labels. Done in pencil and usually not coloured in.

Ordnance Survey (OS) map: An ordnance survey map is an overhead map with a birds eye view that provides a detailed picture of the formation of roads and important buildings through symbols and lines.

Grid references: Numbers and a method of locating certain locations on an OS map. Comes in 4 and 6 figure forms.

Relief: The shape of the earth's surface and how rocky how flat the land is. Can be described as flat or steep. Shown on maps as contour lines.

Contours: Contours are lines drawn on a map. They join places which have the same height. They are usually coloured brown. Most contours have the height marked on them but you may have to

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trace your finger along the line to find it. Sometimes you will have to go to the contour above or below to get the height. Heights are given in metres.

Spot heights: These give the exact height of a point on the map. They are shown as a black dot and each one has a number next to it. The number gives the height in metres. A triangulation pillar is also used to show height. These are drawn as a dot inside a blue triangle on the map.

Layer colouring: This can also be called layer shading. Areas of different heights are shown by bands of different colours. Brown is usually used for high ground and green for low ground. There always needs to be a key. Layer colouring is used in atlases to show height.

Site: The exact position or location of a town, building (anything!) located esp. as to its environment: the site of our summer cabin.

Situation: The location or position with reference to environment. (i.e. the features around an area) e.g. the situation of the house allowed for a beautiful view.

Destructive plate boundaries: A type of plate boundary that is formed when two plates converge towards each other.

Constructive plate boundaries: A type of plate boundary that is formed when two plates diverge away from each other.

Subduction zone: When 2 plates converge on each other, the denser plate is moved under the lighter one and so is melted by the mantle.

Sima: Oceanic crust, this is much heavier and thinner than continental crust.

Sial: Continental crust, this is less dense than sima and is thicker than it as well.

Magma: Molten rock that is viscous in the mantle.

Mantle: The layer of the earth that is made of viscous rock, also is part of the asthenosphere.

Lava: Magma after it has risen to the surface of the earth.

Focus: The point in the crust where an earthquake starts/ the pressure is released.

Epicentre: The point above the focus on the ground.

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Richter: A logarithmic scale from 1-10 that measures the magnitude of an earthquake, each point is 10x greater than the last.

Mercalli scale: A scale that measures the destruction of the quake.

Tremor: A brief release of pressure before an earthquake.

Fault: A line of weakness in the earth's crust.

Seismograph: A device that measures tremors in the earth.

Precipitation: When a form of water falls from clouds, this can include, rain, snow, hail, and sleet.

Interception: When tree leaves block precipitation, this is common in rainforests where there is a large amount of cover by tree canopies, and less common in built up places.

Stem flow: This is when a tree or plant absorbs water and transfers it up via their stem.

Surface storage: Any water that is stored on the surface, in lakes, reservoirs, puddles, or in other forms.

Infiltration: When water from precipitation enters the soil via the surface.

Soil moisture storage: This is the water stored in the soil.

Percolation: This is when water stored as soil moisture, is transferred downwards into rocks.

Groundwater storage: Water stored in rocks that are permeable.

Groundwater flow: The flow of groundwater, this is a very slow process.

Through flow: This is the flow of soil moisture and is a bit faster than groundwater flow.

Surface run-off: This is when water on the surface moves, it is very fast.

Evapotranspiration: When water escapes via small holes in the plants leaves called stomata.

Freshwater: Water free of salt and other impurities, e.g. glacial ice.

Saltwater: Water that contains salt, e.g. seawater.

Drainage basin: A area of which a river will collect water from.

Peak discharge: The highest volume of water in a river over a length of time.

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Lag time: The time between the major precipitation event and the peak discharge.

Cumecs: What peak discharge and water volume is measured in.

Base-flow: The normal river discharge.

Rising limb: The part of a flood hydrograph before the peak discharge .

Falling limb: The part of a flood hydrograph after the peak discharge.

Permeable rock: A rock that allows water to seep into it.

Abrasion: When rocks scrape the river bed.

Corrosion: When acids corrode the banks and bed.

Attrition: When rocks smash each other.

Hydraulic action: When the sheer force of water forces rocks to crack.

Saltation: When water causes small particles of rock to jump around.

Suspension: When suspended material is moved by a river.

Traction: When rivers cause rocks to roll.

Solution: Dissolved material is carried along by the river.

Meander: A bend in a river.

Oxbow lake: An arched lake that forms when a meander becomes too sharp.

Floodplain: The flat land near a river.

Levees: When deposited material from floods build up on a floodplain.

Deltas: Where a river meets the sea.

Slip off slope: On the inside bend of a meander.